

What is claimed is:

1. A universal chassis, comprising:
  - an information processor for controlling the functionality of the chassis;
  - means for accepting a variety of snap-on components;
  - 5 means for receiving communication signals for controlling said information processor;
  - at least one motor operable by said information processor;
  - means for detecting impacts, said detecting means allowing for the counting of the impacts by the information processor;
  - 10 means for powering said snap-on components from said one or more motors; and
  - means for detecting the presence or absence of a mechanical subassembly.
2. The universal chassis as recited in claim 1 comprising two processor controlled pulsed motors for two speed performance;
  - means for receiving an IR signal;
  - means for detecting impacts;
  - 5 means for counting impacts (processor);
  - means for powering a snap-on mechanical subassembly (weapon) from either motor;
  - means for controlling all functions (processor);
  - means for detecting the lack of a mechanical subassembly (weapon);
  - 10 means for clutching the output drive gears for powering the mechanical subassembly;
  - means for displaying (LED) the battle damage from impacts; and
  - switch means for changing the IR carrier frequency that is receivable.

3. The universal chassis as recited in claim 2 further comprising means for connecting removable accessory body parts.

4. The universal chassis as recited in claim 3 wherein said weapons comprise:

means for connecting to the chassis;

means to transfer power from either motor in the chassis to the

5 weapon;

spring loaded cam means for actuating hammer or fork lift components of the weapon;

means for rotating the entire vehicle body or any other attachment;

and

10 means for spinning an extended sawblade or other weapon.

5. The universal chassis as recited in claim 1 operable with a controller comprising:

means to transmit a single IR carrier frequency;

means to transmit a multiplicity of codes over the IR carrier

5 frequency;

switch means to change the transmitted IR carrier frequency;

means to control both motors in the chassis; and

means to control the power (turbo) function.

6. A universal chassis capable of accepting a variety of snap-on components, comprising:

a chassis;

an information processor for controlling the functionality of the

5 chassis;

an actuator linkage mounted on said chassis;

at least one motor operable by said information processor for  
controlling said actuator linkage, said information processor detecting the  
presence or absence of a mechanical assembly of a snap-on component  
10 engaged with said actuator linkages for operation by said at least one motor;  
a receiver in communication with said information processor; and  
a radio frequency carrier selector for controlling the communication  
signals receivable at said receiver.

7. The universal chassis as recited in claim 6 wherein said radio  
frequency carrier selector comprises a multiple position switch facilitating  
the simultaneous communication with said receiver and a second receiver  
associated with a second chassis.

8. The universal chassis as recited in claim 7 comprising a second  
motor operable by said information processor for maneuvering said chassis.

9. The universal chassis as recited in claim 8 wherein each of said  
motors are individually operable for left and right operation for steering or  
otherwise maneuvering said chassis.

10. The universal chassis as recited in claim 9 wherein said actuator  
linkage mounted on said chassis comprises an interlock or clutch mechanical  
subassembly in communication with a cam for operation of the snap-on  
component.

11. A playset including remote controlled interactive vehicles  
having universal chassis assemblies, the playset comprising:  
a plurality of transmitters each comprising a radio frequency  
transmission carrier selector for controlling communication signals  
5 transmittable from said transmitters;

a plurality of vehicle chassis assemblies, each comprising:  
an information processor associated with each said vehicle  
chassis for controlling the functionality of respective vehicles;  
at least one motor operable by each respective information  
10 processor for controlling the maneuvering of the vehicles;  
a receiver in communication with each said information  
processor; and  
a radio frequency carrier selector for controlling the  
communication signals receivable at said receiver associated with  
15 each vehicle,  
wherein a radio frequency receiver carrier selector facilitates  
communication between transmitter-receiver pairs for individual operation  
of vehicle receivers simultaneously with other vehicles.

12. The playset as recited in claim 11 wherein each chassis  
comprises an actuator linkage mounted thereon and operable by said at least  
one motor with said information processor detecting the presence or absence  
of a mechanical assembly of a snap-on component engaged with said  
5 actuator linkages for operation by said at least one motor.